

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Danieli. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Independent claim 1 is directed to the creation of the two-part time stamp receipt at an outside agency for timestamping a digital document. Claim 1 has been amended, without adding new matter, to clarify that the two time stamp receipts are different from each other, and that the identifying data received at the outside agency and upon which the first time stamp receipt is based, is derived from the digital document. Independent claim 9 has also been similarly amended. Danieli does not disclose these aspects of the claimed invention.

Particularly, Danieli discloses a method by which a vendor creates a digest (e.g., a hash of a document) and sends a request to a trusted arbitrator to certify the digest. Upon receipt, the trusted arbitrator appends a timestamp to the digest, creates a security certificate, and signs both artifacts. The trusted arbitrator also stores a copy of the timestamped digest in local memory.

Danieli does not create two different time stamp receipts, but rather, creates only one – the timestamped digest. The security certificate cannot be the requisite second time stamp receipt because it is not generated based on identifying data derived from the digest. Nor is it generated based on a time indication. In contrast, the security certificate includes a serial number field and one or more security services fields to indicate the types of security services and policies that can be requested from the trusted arbitrator. *Danieli*, col. 9, ll. 13-18; Figure 2D. Danieli does not disclose that the security certificate includes data derived from the document or a time indication indicating when the outside agency received the identifying data.

Likewise, the copy of the signed digest stored at the trusted arbitrator cannot be the claimed second time receipt. Because the stored timestamped digest is a copy of the timestamped digest returned to the vendor, the contents of both are necessarily identical – not

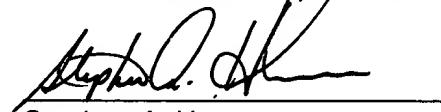
different. In Danieli, the two timestamped digests must be identical because during verification, Danieli teaches that the contents of both must match to be verified.

Therefore, Danieli does not disclose every element of claim 1. Nor does it disclose each and every element of claim 9. As such, Danieli cannot anticipate claim 1 or claim 9, or any of their respective dependent claims under §102.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, all pending claims are patentable over the cited art. As such, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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